AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-29. (Canceled)

30. (Previously presented) A supporting installation for supporting a number of turns,

extending helically one upon the other in a stack, of an at least partly self-supporting conveyor

belt, comprising:

at least one bearing element for supporting the conveyor belt;

a section for supporting the bearing element, said section being extended in an endless

loop along which the bearing element is movable; and

wherein the at least one bearing element is a roller bearing element comprising a plurality

of first and second rollers.

31. (Previously presented) A supporting installation as claimed in Claim 30, wherein

the first roller has an axis which is oriented in a first direction parallel with a plane made up by

two mutually orthogonal axes which are perpendicular to the longitudinal direction of the

section.

32. (Previously presented) A supporting installation as claimed in Claim 30, wherein

the second roller has an axis which is oriented in a second direction parallel with a plane made

up by two mutually orthogonal axes which are perpendicular to the longitudinal direction of the

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section.

33. (Previously presented) A supporting installation as claimed in Claim 30, wherein

the first roller is adapted to receive vertical forces.

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34. (Previously presented) A supporting installation as claimed in Claim 30, wherein

the second roller is adapted to receive radially directed forces.

35. (Previously presented) A supporting installation as claimed in Claim 30, wherein

the first roller has an axis which is oriented in the transverse direction of the section.

36. (Previously presented) A supporting installation as claimed in Claim 30, wherein

the second roller has an axis which is oriented perpendicular both to the axis of the first roller

and to the longitudinal direction of the section.

37. (Previously presented) A supporting installation as claimed in Claim 30, wherein

the first and the second rollers are alternately arranged in the longitudinal direction of the bearing

element.

38. (Previously presented) A supporting installation as claimed in Claim 30, wherein

the rollers are spaced from each other.

39. (Previously presented) A supporting installation as claimed in Claim 30, wherein

neighbouring rollers are interconnected to form a bearing element which is continuously

extended in its longitudinal direction.

40. (Previously presented) A supporting installation as claimed in Claim 39, wherein

the interconnected rollers form an endless bearing element.

41. (Previously presented) A supporting installation as claimed in Claim 30, wherein

the diameter of the one of the first and second rollers is greater than the width of the other of the

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first and second rollers.

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42. (Previously presented) A supporting installation as claimed in Claim 30, wherein

the geometric center of the one of the first and second rollers is arranged essentially along the

rotational axis of the other of the first and second rollers, as seen perpendicular to a plane made

up of two mutually orthogonal axes which are perpendicular to the longitudinal direction of the

bearing element.

43. (Previously presented) A supporting installation as claimed in Claim 30, wherein

the rollers of the bearing element are relatively movable in the longitudinal direction of the

section.

44. (Previously presented) A supporting installation as claimed in Claim 43, wherein

said rollers are relatively movable under spring action.

45. (Previously presented) A supporting installation as claimed in Claim 30,

comprising at least one drive assembly which is drivable by a motor and adapted to drive the

belt.

46. (Previously presented) A supporting installation as claimed in Claim 45, wherein

the drive assembly is a chain.

47. (Previously presented) A supporting installation as claimed in Claim 30:

further comprising a carrier which is extended along said section and adapted to support

the belt; and

wherein said bearing element is arranged between said carrier and said section.

LAW OFFICES OF CHRISTENSEN O'CONNOR JOHNSON KINDNESSPLLC 1420 Fifth Avenue 48. (Previously presented) A supporting installation as claimed in Claim 46, wherein

the carrier is formed by drive assembly which is drivable by a motor and adapted to drive the

conveyor belt.

49. (Previously presented) A supporting installation as claimed in Claim 47, wherein

the carrier is a chain.

50. (Previously presented) A supporting installation as claimed in Claim 30:

comprising two chains each extended along the section and adapted to drive and support

the belt at a longitudinal side edge of each of the belts; and

wherein the bearing element is in the form of a roller bearing element and is arranged

between the associated chain and section.

51. (Previously presented) A supporting installation as claimed in Claim 30, wherein

the section comprises a bearing seat extended along the section and being L shaped in cross

section and adapted to receive said bearing element.

52. (Currently amended) A bearing element for a supporting installation for

supporting a number of turns, extending helically one upon the other in a stack, of an at least

partially self-supporting conveyor belt, comprising:

a plurality of first rollers and a plurality of second rollers;

said first and second rollers being alternately arranged in succession to form an elongate

bearing element;

the rotational axes of the first and second rollers being mutually orthogonal and also

perpendicular to the longitudinal direction of the bearing element; and

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two neighboring rollers being interconnected by a connecting element, said connecting

element holding the neighbouring rollers spaced apart from each other while allowing relative

mobility between the rollers in the longitudinal direction of the bearing element.

53. (Previously presented) A bearing element as claimed in Claim 52, wherein said

relative mobility is provided by elongate holes formed in the respective connecting elements and

extending in the longitudinal direction of the bearing element and encompassing a web of one of

two neighboring rollers.

54. (Previously presented) A bearing element as claimed in Claim 52, wherein each

connecting element is arranged so as to allow mutual resilience of the rollers.

55. (Previously presented) A bearing element as claimed in Claim 52, wherein the

diameter of one of the first and second rollers is greater than the width of the other of the first

and second rollers.

56. (Previously presented) A bearing element as claimed in Claim 52, wherein each

roller comprises a web.

57. (Previously presented) A bearing element as claimed in Claim 52, wherein said

connecting element comprises a generally U shaped piece with a hole formed in each leg of the

U shaped piece, which holes are aligned with each other, the web of the U shaped piece grasping

a web of one of the first and the second rollers and said holes receiving a web of the other of the

first and the second rollers.

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- 58. (Previously presented) A bearing element as claimed in Claim 57, wherein a resilient lip is arranged on the edge of the hole in one of the legs of the U shaped piece, said lip being extended towards the hole in the other of the legs of the U shaped piece.
- 59. (New) A bearing element as claimed in Claim 52, wherein the connecting element allows relative mobility between the rollers in the longitudinally direction of the bearing element.